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THD 1161
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World Production and Trade

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Washington, D.C. 20250

1
Weekly
Roundup

WR 34-85

Aug. 21, 1985

The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following developments in world agriculture and trade.

GRAIN AND FEED

The heaviest rainfall in 10 years in the UNITED KINGDOM has caused lodging during the wheat and barley harvest, which could mean some loss in this year's harvest as well as possible quality damage. A poor quality harvest could mean more grain sold into export channels at reduced prices, thereby lowering European Community (EC) export subsidy costs. However, it could also result in stronger demand for high-quality malting barley from North America as occurred in 1983/84 when the EC had a poor quality barley harvest. The United Kingdom is traditionally a barley exporter with exports to third countries for 1984/85 forecast at 3 million tons, significantly higher than the 1.4 million tons exported in the past several years.

The JAPAN Feed Association will send importers to Thailand for a six-day mission to discuss Thai corn imports, and is considering a 10,000-ton purchase of new crop Thai corn for October shipment on a trial basis. Although a purchase of that size represents a drop in the bucket compared to Japan's annual 14-15 million-ton corn imports, it shows Japan is interested in renewing its corn trade with Thailand. Thai corn production is forecast at a record 4.9 million tons for 1985, and with exports also forecast at a record of 3.5 million tons, Thailand is actively seeking buyers for its bumper harvest.

YUGOSLAVIA's 1985/86 corn crop is estimated at 9.5 million tons, 16 percent below last year's record crop of 11.3 million, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Belgrade. Hot, dry weather in July and early August has reduced yield prospects. The corn crop is in good condition in northern Vojvodina and Croatia, the main producing regions. However, yield prospects in the southern areas, particularly southern Serbia and Macedonia, have been badly hurt by the dry weather.

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DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

The U.S. agricultural attache in Moscow forecasts the SOVIET UNION's meat production in 1985 at 17.0 million tons, up 300,000 tons from the 1984 level. Most of this increase is attributed to increased cattle herd culling. Soviet beef production for 1985 is now forecast at 7.4 million tons, up 200,000 tons from 1984. The Soviets are culling less productive cattle partly because of a drawdown in feed supplies caused by last winter's severe weather. Herd culling is expected to continue into 1986 but at a slower pace; beef production is forecast to increase by 100,000 tons to 7.5 million tons.

Soviet pork production for 1985 is forecast at 5.8 million tons, unchanged from last year. The outlook for 1986 indicates pork production will not exceed the 1985 level. Soviet poultry meat production for 1985 is forecast at 2.7 million tons, up 100,000 tons from last year. A further 100,000-ton increase is projected for 1986 because the Soviets have given the poultry sector priority for better feeds and improved technology.

COTTON

PAKISTAN has contracted to sell 60,000-75,000 bales of cotton to India within the next two weeks. The contract was negotiated at a cost of \$345 per candy (784 lbs.), which is currently \$40 cheaper than the equivalent Indian variety. The availability of Pakistani cotton at this price has reportedly depressed India's domestic cotton market slightly.

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Selected International Prices

Item		Aug. 20, 1985	Change from previous week	A year ago
ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/				
Wheat:				
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%.	156.50	4.26	.50	179.50
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%....	149.00	4.06	+2.00	167.00
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W.	129.00	3.51	0	151.00
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.....	160.00	4.35	+6.00	188.50
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum...	180.00	4.90	+8.00	207.00
Feed grains:				
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn....	116.00	2.95	+5.00	145.00
Soybeans and meal:				
U.S. No. 2 Yellow.....	206.75	5.63	-4.95	252.00
Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets	153.50	--	-4.50	174.00
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal....	148.00	--	-3.50	176.00
U.S. FARM PRICES 3/				
Wheat.....	103.24	2.81	+1.08	119.04
Barley.....	60.17	1.31	+2.30	90.02
Corn.....	92.91	2.36	+3.54	124.80
Sorghum.....	N.Q.	-- 2/	--	N.Q.
Broilers 7/.....	1109.80	--	+34.83	1113.10
EC IMPORT LEVIES				
Wheat 5/.....	86.00	2.34	-.40	61.45
Barley.....	88.75	1.93	+3.95	55.80
Corn.....	73.85	1.87	.15	38.90
Sorghum.....	88.50	2.25	+5.30	65.90
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/.....	182.00	--	+2.50	172.00
EC INTERVENTION PRICES 7/				
Common wheat(feed quality)	146.65	3.99	+1.90	144.45
Bread wheat (min. quality)7/	156.80	4.27	+2.05	154.45
Barley and all				
other feed grains.....	146.65	--	+1.90	144.45
Broilers 4/ 6/.....	1190.00	--	+8.00	1143.00
EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)				
Wheat	N.A.	--	--	12.50
Barley.....	N.A.	--	--	19.90
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/.....	105.00	--	+2.00	101.00

1/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam. 2/ Hundredweight (CWT). 3/ Twelve-city average, wholesale weighted average. 4/ EC category--70 percent whole chicken. 5/ Reflects lower EC export subsidy--down to 20.00 ECU/100 bag effective 9/14/83 from 22.50 ECU/100 bag set in 2/83. 6/ F.o.b. price for R.T.C. broilers at West German border. 7/ Reference price. 8/Reflects change in level set by EC. N.A.=None authorized. N.Q.=Not quoted. Note: Basis September delivery.

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